The purpose of this program is to strengthen the knowledge, skills, and capacity of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) workforce through online continuing education tailored to meet the needs of emerging and practicing MCH professionals. The project utilizes a web site to connect learners to open-access webcasts, presentations, instructional modules, and online courses covering essential MCH skills and knowledge. The MCH Navigator is specifically structured to meet the needs of the MCH workforce, including staff with different professional responsibilities, professional disciplines, education, work experience and prior exposure to Title V and public health. It encourages life-long learning across all career stages, facilitates self-directed learning, and is constantly evolving to address new and expanding areas of MCH practice.

The recipient’s responsibilities will include:

1. Strategic and Collaborative Assessment and Planning
   • Link learners to open-access webcasts, presentations, instructional modules, and online courses covering essential MCH skills and knowledge;
   • Monitor Title V workforce needs and currently available open-access materials and courses; and
   • Link to existing high quality content and develop content where gaps exist.

2. Communications and Outreach
   • Develop a communications, dissemination, and outreach plan geared towards MCH workforce learners and to reach diverse audiences and partners such as state and local public health professional organizations, and philanthropic organizations; and
   • Draw on partner resources in order to implement the span of activities and operate the Navigator as a MCH community partnership.
3. Content, Quality and Enhancements
   • Link learners to open-access webcasts, presentations, instructional modules, and online courses covering essential MCH skills and knowledge;
   • Build upon the content contained in the current MCH Navigator website, http://mchnavigator.org
   • Review and vet existing content for both pedagogy and adult learning with both MCH practice and MCH academic audiences to assure high quality content;
   • Link existing efforts where high quality content exists;
   • Partner with MCH Stakeholder organizations, develop new content where content gaps exist and then market, and deliver to Title V workforce;
   • Provide staff capacity (and technological ability) to maintain the web portal; and
   • Develop new innovative features and enhancements as recommended by learners and as emerging technology provides new opportunities.

4. Accountability and Evaluation
   • Analyze the quality of materials and user data to improve the MCH Navigator Program;
   • Assure that the content, pedagogy, and adult learning approach are meeting the needs of diverse MCH workforce audiences; and
   • Assist parties involved in any external evaluation of the MCH Navigator Program.

5. External Advisory Capacity
   • Recruit and retain members of external advisory group(s) to seek input in the outlined areas

Approximately $180,000 is expected to be available annually to fund one (1) recipient. The project period is five (5) years.

LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION
One application per institution is allowed.

KEY DATES
If you are interested in this funding opportunity, please send a one-page summary of the proposed research and your biosketch to Eric Boberg (e-boberg@northwestern.edu) by December 28, 2015.

The sponsor application due date is February 12, 2016.

COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely
(yehiely@northwestern.edu), Associate Vice President for Research, Director of ORD, for more information.

**CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Fruma Yehiely, Associate Vice President for Research, Director of ORD, 847-491-1074, yehiely@northwestern.edu

Limited Submissions web site: www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/